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WASHINGTON - House <u>Speaker Nancy Pelosi's</u> release Thursday of the new \$894 billion health-care bill drew immediate mixed reactions from members of Arizona's delegation.

"Today, we are about to deliver on the promise of making affordable, quality health care available for all Americans, laying the foundation for a brighter future for generations to come," Pelosi, D-Calif., said under gloomy skies during an outdoor news conference on the West Front of the U.S. Capitol. Anti-abortion and limited-government activists protested in the distance.

But the bill's inclusion of a version of a government-run public option to compete with private insurers did not satisfy liberal Rep. Raul Grijalva, D-Ariz., who wants a more "robust" one. He also wants to scrap the insurance industry's antitrust exemption. "I will push to allow for a vote on a robust public-option amendment because the American people deserve that vote," said Grijalva, co-chairman of the Congressional Progressive Caucus.

Rep. John Shadegg, R-Ariz., who opposes the Democratic approach to reform, predicted Americans will sour on Pelosi's 1,990-page bill after they learn more about its provisions, such as one that gives immunity to most employer insurance plans for wrongful decisions to deny care that result in death.

Rep. <u>Harry Mitchell</u>, D-Ariz., who represents a GOP-leaning district, said he needs time to study the bill, which his staff was printing out as he spoke.

"The health-care system is broken, and you've got to do something, but we don't want the cure to be worse than the disease," Mitchell said during an interview at his Capitol Hill office. "We want to make sure that it's good and something we can defend and support."

Nowicki, The Republic's national political reporter, is reporting this week from Washington, D.C. Follow Arizona's congressional delegation on his blog at azdc.azcentral.com.